

Notic of Allowability

Application No.

09/829,888

Examiner

Pedro J. Cuevas

Applicant(s)

CORBETT ET AL.

Art Unit

2834

-- Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on October 27, 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-15.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 28 June 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the margin according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____ |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No. _____ | 7 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given by J. Bruce Schelkopf in Applicant's Election without traverse filed on October 10, 2002.

The application has been amended as follows: Please cancel claims 16-30.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-15 are allowed.

Schneider et al. clearly teaches the construction of an ultrasonic biometric imaging and identity verification system comprising:

a direct current motor having a stator and a rotor, said stator fixed to a reference frame;

a threaded shaft coupled to said rotor;

a torsion spring disposed perpendicular to said axis of said threaded shaft, said torsion spring comprising a center portion coaxially attached to said threaded shaft and an outer portion attached to said reference frame, and stores rotational energy from DC motor when said DC motor rotates said threaded shaft in a first rotary direction, said torsion spring returning rotational energy to said shaft in a second rotary direction when said DC motor is un-energized.

Asai et al. teach the construction of a controller having a shaft coaxially coupled to a rotational shaft stop, said shaft stop having a first and second shaft stop surfaces, and a first and a second actuator stop, said first actuator stop contacting said first shaft stop surface in a first rotation position and said second actuator stop contacting said second shaft stop surface at a second rotation position, wherein a first and second force resulting from said first and second actuator stops contacting said first and second shaft stop surfaces, respectively, act tangential to a radius vector of said threaded shaft for the purpose of preventing a throttle valve from locking at its fully closed position.

Has teaches the construction of a rotating actuator having an elastic strip and a linear spring for the purpose of setting the flywheel and actuating element into movement through a defined free angle.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

The prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to teach the construction of a linear actuator as described on:

independent claim 1, comprising a translation actuator threadedly coupled to said threaded shaft, said translation actuator rotationally stopped and operable to laterally translate in response to rotation of said threaded shaft by said DC motor; and

independent claim 7, comprising a conversion means for converting rotation motion of said shaft to an actuator lateral translation motion.

Dependent claims 2-6 and 8-15 are considered allowable by their respective dependence on allowed independent claims 1 and 7.

Art Unit: 2834

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion


4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See PTO-892.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pedro J. Cuevas whose telephone number is (703) 308-4904. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:30 - 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nestor R. Ramirez can be reached on (703) 308-1371. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 872-9306 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Pedro J. Cuevas
December 11, 2003


BURTON S. MULLINS
PRIMARY EXAMINER